IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 5, 7-11, 14, 15, 18-21, and 24 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as shown below in the claims listing.

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for determining one or more error conditions in a system, comprising:

operating a device in the system in a first state;

modifying at least one operational characteristic of the device to operate in a second state by ~~wherein modifying the operational characteristic of the device comprises~~ adjusting a number of transaction identifiers that are available to the device during the second state;

determining if an error condition occurs in the system in response to modifying the operational characteristic of the device.

4.   (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for determining one or more error conditions in a system, comprising:

operating a device in the system in a first state;

modifying at least one operational characteristic of the device to operate in a second state by ~~wherein modifying the operational characteristic of the device comprises~~ adjusting a number of target identifiers that are available to the device during the second state;

determining if an error condition occurs in the system in response to modifying the operational characteristic of the device.

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for determining one or more error conditions in a system, comprising:

operating a device in the system in a first state;

modifying at least one operational characteristic of the device to operate in a second state by ~~wherein modifying the operational characteristic of the device comprises~~ adjusting at least one of a number of secondary transfer buffer transactions, victim rewrite buffer transactions, and slave broadcast invalidates that are available during a preselected interval;

determining if an error condition occurs in the system in response to modifying the operational characteristic of the device.

7-11. (Cancelled)

12.   (Currently amended) ~~The system of claim 7,~~ A system, comprising:

a control unit adapted to provide a control signal;

a first device adapted to generate one or more requests; and

a second device adapted to process one or more requests from the first device using a first configuration and adapted to process one or more requests using a second configuration in response to receiving the control signal;

wherein the first configuration of the second device comprises a preselected number of available transaction identifiers and wherein the second configuration comprises less than the preselected number of available transaction identifiers.

13.   (Currently amended) ~~The system of claim 7,~~ A system, comprising:

a control unit adapted to provide a control signal;

a first device adapted to generate one or more requests; and

a second device adapted to process one or more requests from the first device using a first configuration and adapted to process one or more requests using a second configuration in response to receiving the control signal;

wherein the first configuration of the second device comprises a preselected number of available target identifiers and wherein the second configuration comprises less than the preselected number of available target identifiers.

14-15. (Cancelled).

16.   (Currently amended) ~~The article of claim 14,~~ An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

operate a device in the system in a first state;

modify at least one operational characteristic of the device to operate in a second state by ~~wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to adjust~~ adjusting a number of transaction identifiers that are available to the device during the second state; and

determine if an error condition occurs in the system in response to modifying the operational characteristic of the device.

17.   (Currently amended) ~~The article of claim 14,~~ An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

operate a device in the system in a first state;

modify at least one operational characteristic of the device to operate in a second state by ~~wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to adjust~~ adjusting a number of target identifiers that are available to the device during the second state; and

determine if an error condition occurs in the system in response to modifying the operational characteristic of the device.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 19,~~ An apparatus, comprising:

an interface; and

a verification module adapted to receive a control signal from the interface in a first state and to adjust an operating characteristic of the apparatus to exercise a system in a second state such that the verification module is capable of revealing one or more error conditions in the system in response to receiving the control signal;

wherein the verification module reduces the number of transactions that may be processed by the apparatus for a preselected interval by reducing a number of transaction identifiers that are available to a device during the second state.

23. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 19,~~ An apparatus, comprising:

an interface; and

a verification module adapted to receive a control signal from the interface in a first state and to adjust an operating characteristic of the apparatus to exercise a system in a second state such that the verification module is capable of revealing one or more error conditions in the system in response to receiving the control signal;

wherein the verification module increases the number of transactions that may be processed by the apparatus for a preselected interval by increasing a number of transaction identifiers that are available to a device during the second state.

24. (Cancelled)